

Research Paper :

Causes of migration of Indian children to other countries

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ABSTRACT

The research work was undertaken with the objective to study the causes of migration of Indian children to other countries and most preferred country of migration. The sample of 200 parents were drawn from 150 families for which, 28 villages were covered to finalize the sample. The samples were equally divided according to the age range of respondents such as 65-75 years and 75-85 years. It was observed that preferred countries of migration of children were Canada followed by United States Of America and United Arab Emirates. Main reasons for migration were marriage base followed by better work culture and good quality of life there.

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Migration means the movement of people from one place to another. In modern times, with the ever-increasing flow of young Indians to foreign land, the society is experiencing a new influx of global style of life. The Indian families are going through transition period. However, this has turned into an emotional problem for many of parents. While admiring children's achievement abroad, parents also feel the painful separation at the aging stage during the initial period. Because of a keen desire not to deny their children the best of education and career opportunities more and more parents had to stretch their resources beyond comfort. In the interest of a bright future for their children, many parents happily sacrifice their own personal pleasures and aspirations. The Indian children have generally excelled in foreign lands both educationally and professionally. This has often meant that the families have felt deprived of a source of emotional and some times even of financial support. On the national level, the country has suffered from the brain drain.

On this front, however, the current thinking has changed substantially. During the initial period of their separation, both parents and children live on the hope of reuniting in the foreseeable future after education is completed and some professional experience is gained. However, as young boys and girls gain more confidence, develop independent thinking and come to face with new opportunities, many of them decide to stay back to explore new horizons. This often marks the beginning of new

problems for many families as the working children engage in developing their career, leave home problems and busy in raising their own families and therefore can't visit their parents as often as they may like to. The aging parents, sensing lack of emotional support, begin to worry about their sun-set years. Many children advise their parents to immigrate permanently. However, for various reasons, it is difficult for most of the parents to accept this proposal. Thus, the initial gap - a geographical one - now converts into a wide emotional gap as well. While the world's moving fast and furiously, taking people way beyond their home towns and countries, to explore new horizons, there's someone back home whose world has shrunk: the senior citizens.

Hank (2007) revealed that even when micro level factors are controlled for the Mediterranean, people continue to exhibit closer family relations than their northern counter parts. When looking at the contemporary European picture as a whole, author found no indication for a decline of inter- generational relations. Chakrabarti (2008) revealed that ageing for many a rural woman is neither a curse nor a blessing. It hardly frightens them, for some women earnestly desire to undertake role reversal. They are not a liability to the family but certainly a human assets who also help ushering social change.

In today's global village concept, the youth has forgotten their culture and legacy. They are following their western counterparts after attaining a suitable position in